



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

Our Parish

Pentecost Sunday

Sunday 19th May 2024

Year 2024, Issue #21

The Gospel

John 14: 15-20

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.



Season of Pentecost

الإنجيل

يو ١٤: ١٥-٢٠

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ لِتَلَامِيذِهِ: «إِنْ تُحِبُّونِي تَحْفَظُوا وَصَايَايَ. وَأَنَا أَسْأَلُ الْآبَ فَيُعْطِيكُمْ بَرَقْلِيطًا آخَرَ مُؤَيَّدًا يَكُونُ مَعَكُمْ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ. هُوَ رُوحُ الْحَقِّ الَّذِي لَا يَقْدِرُ الْعَالَمُ أَنْ يَقْبَلَهُ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا يَرَاهُ، وَلَا يَعْرِفُهُ. أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَتَعْرِفُونَهُ، لِأَنَّهُ مُقِيمٌ عِنْدَكُمْ، وَهُوَ فِيكُمْ. لَنْ أَتْرُكَكُمْ يَتَامَى. إِنِّي آتِي إِلَيْكُمْ. عَمَّا قَلِيلٍ لَنْ يَرَانِي الْعَالَمُ، أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَتَرَوْنِي، لِأَنِّي أَنَا حَيٌّ وَأَنْتُمْ سَتَحْيَوْنَ. فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ تَعْرِفُونَ أَنِّي أَنَا فِي أَبِي، وَأَنْتُمْ فِيَّ، وَأَنَا فِيكُمْ.



Next Sunday

Trinity Sunday

Old Testament

Reading

Gen 18: 1-8

Epistle

Rom 11: 25-36

Gospel

Matt 28: 16-20



PENTECOST

Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Divine Liturgy and Services

Sundays: 9:00am (Arabic), 11:00am (Arabic/English), 6:00pm (English)

Mondays and Tuesdays: 9:00am

Wednesdays – Saturdays: 6:00pm

Confessions: By Appointment

Sick Visits: Contact Clergy or the Parish Office (contact details below)

Parish and Ministry Team and Contact Details

Parish Priest: Msgr Marcelino Youssef 0404 272 272

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Bechara Trad 0403 725 134

Deacon: Nagi Dimian 0403 750 613

Subdeacon: Jason Maait 0415 771 461

Administration: Rose Zeaiter and Mary Issa Flynn

Phone: (02) 9481 7388 or 0422 275 199

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Fridays 9:00am - 5.00pm; Wednesdays and Thursdays 9:00am - 3:00pm

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Margaret Simpson 0408 895 798, George Takchi 0419 651 229

Parish Address: 2 Yarrara Road (Corner Wells Street), Thornleigh, NSW, 2120

Website: www.stgeorgemcc.org.au

Email: info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Bishops Message Year of Prayer Pentecost Sunday

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we celebrate the feast of Pentecost this Sunday, we are reminded of its inseparable connection with the glorious event of Easter. Pentecost is the fruit of Easter, the culmination of the Resurrection event that marks the pinnacle of our faith. Without the Lord's Resurrection from the dead, this feast would not exist in the life of the Church. It is through the Risen Christ who ascended to heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father, that the continuity of his salvific work is affirmed within the embrace of the Church through his accompanying and consoling Holy Spirit. The Resurrection, Ascension, and Pentecost are three events that integrate to bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit within the Church.

On Pentecost, let us consider how the Holy Spirit continues to lead and guide the Church today, just as He has since the beginning. It is the Holy Spirit who ensures that the Church remains a faithful witness to the presence of the Lord and proclaims His Gospel throughout the world. Through the grace of the Spirit, the Church bears the Gospel of Christ in the world today.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Lord and the Spirit of the Church, giving her life and the ability to continue as a witness to Jesus Christ. Just as the Spirit spoke through the prophets and inspired the writers of the sacred books, He now inspires the Church to discover more of Jesus' identity, presence, and work in the world today.

Let us also reflect on the significance of the Holy Spirit in our individual lives. He dwells within us, transforming us into temples of the Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit, we are enabled to pray and cry out to God as children, confident in our identity as sons and daughters of the Father. We seek to spread the word of God in the world, knowing that our true home is where the Lord Jesus stands at the right hand of the Father.

In this Marian month, let us look to Mary who experienced the Spirit in her unique Pentecost. Our Maronite iconography for this feast portrays her standing at the centre of the disciples in the upper room. In her example, let us strive to carry the Lord to others in the silence of faith and the holiness of life. May we make our lives a continuous hymn of praise to the Lord through the Spirit dwelling within us.

On this Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, may the Holy Spirit continue to guide us to draw ever closer to the heart of the Father. Amen.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay



Reflection of the Week: "Pentecost"

We enter today into the longest Season in our Maronite lectionary – the Season of Pentecost. It is dedicated to the ministry of the disciples and is a calling to live our lives through the grace of God's Spirit in us.

The Gospel passage for the commencement of Pentecost is firstly a reminder to keep the commandments. Last week's Gospel presented Jesus' commandment to love one another as Jesus loves us. Pentecost takes up this theme and insists we live it out.

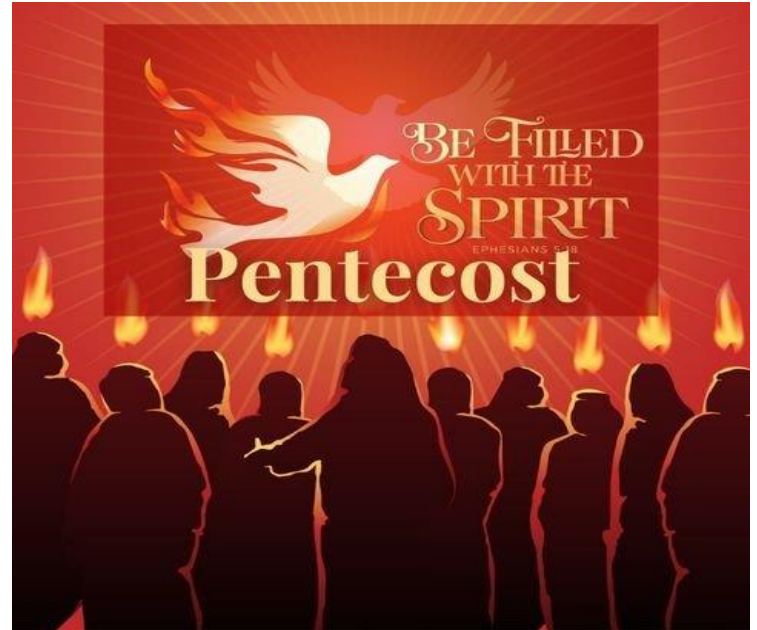
In today's society much is turned into passing fads. Things come and go. People rise in popularity and soon enough end up in obscurity. Nothing seems to endure and hold timeless truths that capture people's minds and hearts.

Today's Gospel is a call to remember Jesus and to ensure his commandment of love is not just another passing fad but an essential element of life.

God does not come and go according to our whims. We are told that God 'abides with you' (v17). There is that enduring knowledge given to us from Jesus, 'that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you' (v20). With this deeply held knowledge of the intimacy of God in our lives, we are assured that God will remain from age to age, despite the rise of non-believers and a society of passing fads and little depth.

'This is the Spirit of truth' (v17) and in this Season of Pentecost we are called to know this truth, to love as Jesus loved, and to make Christ's presence palpable for all. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf



كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفس

في إنجيل القديس يوحنا، شرح واضح لماهية الروح القدس في حياتنا المسيحية. أولاً، إن يسوع سيسأل الأب بأن يُرسل الروح القدس إلينا. لهذا كان صعود الرب يسوع مهمًا وضروريًا لنا: ليُعدّ لنا مقامًا عند الأب، وليُرسل لنا الروح القدس. فلنطلب دومًا من الرب يسوع بأن يسأل لنا نعمة روحه القدس في حياتنا وفي حياة الكنيسة جمعاء.

ثانيًا، إن الروح القدس هو البارقليط أي المُدافع والمعزي. فالروح القدس هو من يحرك حياتنا الروحية نحو الله فيُدافع عنا في أيام الشدة ويعزينا في أيام الجفاء. كما وهو المؤيد أي المُساعد والداعم. فكم من المرات عندما نواجه صعوبات الحياة، نكون بحاجة لهذا الدعم؟ فما هو روح الله حاضرٌ ليؤيدنا ويعزينا.

ثالثًا، هو روح الحق: يقول الحق ويشهد للحق ويقود إلى الحق. بالمقابل، يؤيب ما هو غير الحق. هو صوت الضمير المقيم فينا، يصرخ عاليًا ليجدرنا إن خطئنا ويدعونا لنصح مسيرنا فنبقى في الحق.

<https://www.kobayat.org>

Parish News and Upcoming Events



Month of May
Month of Mary

VISITATION OF MARY TO YOUR HOME

For bookings,
please register
your details at the
Church Door or
contact the Parish
Office

KNIGHTS OF ST GEORGE MEN'S GATHERING



FRIDAY 31ST MAY

**6PM MASS
FOLLOWED BY SPIRITUAL
TALK AND BBQ**



CONFESSION

**EVERY THURSDAY
7.30PM-8.30PM**

1 John 4:9
9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness

**ADORATION OF THE
EUCHARIST**
Every Thursday @ 7:30pm
Confession Available

ST GEORGE PLAYGROUP

**EVERY FRIDAY
10am - 12pm**
during school term

Children 0-5 Years

ALL WELCOME
For more information,
please contact
Mary 0422 871 197

Senior Program

**Wednesdays
9:00am - 4:00pm**

If anyone is interested in joining the Seniors Program or volunteering, please contact:
Zaride 0417 427 661
Josephine 0426 239 129

MARONITES ON MISSION AUSTRALIA

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR MONTHLY FOOD RUNS

MEAL ITEMS SUCH AS:
Sandwiches, Fruit, Hot Meals, Cakes, Bread

For more information please contact:
Ann-Marie Boumerhe 0420 309 677
George Takchi 0419 651 229

**JOIN OUR
WHATSAPP GROUP**

JOIN THE PARISH CHOIR

We are seeking new members for our Parish Choirs to serve our weekend Masses

Saturdays 6pm
Sundays 9am, 11am, 6pm

If interested, or for more information, please contact the Parish Office.

CREED TO COMMUNION

Discover the heart of the Catholic faith

A course that explores the teachings of the Catholic Church for those desiring to deepen their understanding of the faith or for adults seeking the Sacrament of Baptism

EVERY MONDAY FROM 17 JUNE 2024
AT 7:30PM

LOL COMMUNITY YOUTH AND PASTORAL CENTRE
1/40-46 ALICE ST, HARRIS PARK

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MARONITE CATHOLIC FAITH

17 June	God's Purpose for You
24 June	Belief and Faith
01 July	The Most Holy Trinity
08 July	Our Lord Jesus Christ
15 July	Our Lord's Life, Death and Purpose
22 July	The Holy Spirit
29 July	The One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic Church
05 August	Scripture and Tradition
12 August	Our Lady Part I
19 August	Our Lady Part II
26 August	Prayer
02 September	Virtue and Sin
09 September	The Ten Commandments
16 September	The Teachings of the Lord
23 September	The Sacrament of Confession
30 September	The Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation
07 October	The Eucharist
14 October	The Sacrament of Marriage
21 October	The Maronite Saints
28 October	Catholic Social Teaching
04 November	The Divine Liturgy - The Qurbono
11 November	Q&A Night!

Pilgrimage Tour for the Beatification of Venerable Estephan El Douaihy

Please note the Pilgrimage Tour has been postponed to June/July 2025 to coincide with the Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope events in Rome at that time. This decision was made due to the uncertainty around the situation in Lebanon.

If you are interested in the 2025 Pilgrimage to Rome, please:

- email your name and contact number to info@maronite.org.au
- follow the Maronite Eparchy on Facebook and Instagram or
- sign up for news at maronite.org.au

For enquiries, call or text Subdeacon Charbel Mourani on 0410 343 233 or email faithformation@maronite.org.au
To register, go to tinyurl.com/MaroniteCTC

Course is held at the Our Lady of Lebanon Community Youth and Pastoral Centre, 40 Alice Street, Harris Park. Classes begin at 7:30 pm and everyone is welcome.
To register, go to tinyurl.com/MaroniteCTC

Memorial Masses

نوايا القداسات

Sunday 19 th May 2024	9am	Mass for the Late Martha Zaiter	قداس المرحومة مرثا زعيتير	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ١٩ أيار ٢٠٢٤
	11am	Thanksgiving Mass for all St George Feast Week Volunteers, Sponsors and Donors	قداس الشكر لجميع المساعدين والمتبرعين في أسبوع عيد مار جرجس	١١ :٠٠	
Sunday 26 th May 2024	9am	Late Mourched and Shmouni Aouchan and their departed	قداس المرحومين مرشد وشموني عوشان وعموم موتاهن	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ٢٦ أيار ٢٠٢٤
	11am	Late Phillip Bakhos Abboud	قداس المرحوم فيليب باخوس عبود	١١ :٠٠	

Congratulations to the newly Christened: Sebastian Ronald Azar

Parish Financial Updates

Parish Income (fortnight 13/05/2024 – 26/05/2024)
TBA

**To receive our eNewsletter
please email**

info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Parish Operations Account
\$98,774.32

Parish Loan Balance
\$400,281.73



Subscribe to our Channel
[St George Maronite
Catholic Church](#)

**Donations to support our ongoing Parish mission
can be made at the Parish Office or by internet banking or
direct debit - (Account Name: St George Maronite Church,
BSB #062-784, Account # 16948504)**



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Business Community Corner



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Principal
0405 122 331 | 02 9875 1777
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or email info@stgeorgemcc.org.au**